

Beginning the week of November 23, 2006

ALL USERS accessing Pay.gov must use a browser that supports 128 bit encryption. See below for list of supported versions of browsers.

And,

All SYSTEMS accessing Pay.gov via a system-to-system interface (OCI) must support 128 bit encryption.

To meet Treasury's policy, Pay.gov will begin mandating that any browser communicating with Pay.gov support 128 bit encryption.

Based on usage reports from August, we have noted that 79% of the browsers and agency applications accessing Pay.gov are using known, compliant encryption. 1% of the browsers accessing Pay.gov are not compliant. We cannot determine whether 20% of our users and agency system-to-system interfaces are compliant because they are using a browser or software that does not supply encryption information to our environment

Our system administrators plan to implement a user friendly message for users accessing Pay.gov via an unsupported version of a browser to notify them that their connection issue may be related to the version of their browser. The message will appear if Pay.gov's infrastructure can identify enough information submitted by the browser (i.e., encryption level). Those users that we cannot re-direct to a user friendly page will receive a "page cannot be displayed" message. Please note that we are providing a high level message regarding the browser.

Minimum browser requirements to support 128 bit encryption:

IE 6.0 (Recommended)

Mozilla Firefox 1.5 or greater

Mozilla 1.7 or greater

Netscape 7.x

Safari 1.2 (for MAC users)

Not Recommended:

IE 5.5 or lower

The upgrade will take place in production the week of November 23.

Our QA environment will be upgraded the week of November 13. Both the production and QA upgrades will take approximately one week to complete.

Please contact the Pay.gov Technical Support Help Desk by email at pay.gov.clev@clev.frb.org or by phone at 800-624-1373, to discuss any questions or concerns.